



National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, Inc.

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March 29, 2013

Marsha Atkins, ND, RN  
Dean of Nursing  
Department of Nursing  
Cuyahoga Community College  
700 Carnegie Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44115-2878

Dear Dr. Atkins:

This letter is formal notification of the action taken by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission at its meeting on March 7-8, 2013. The Board of Commissioners voted to deny continuing accreditation to the associate nursing program. This decision is based on the NLNAC policy that continuing accreditation is denied to programs with conditions status that are found to be in continued non-compliance with any Accreditation Standard based on the evidence presented in the Follow-Up Report submitted by the nursing program.

Deliberations centered on the Follow-Up Report and the recommendation of the Evaluation Review Panel. (See Summary of Deliberations and Recommendation of the Evaluation Review Panel)

The Board of Commissioners identified the following evidence of non-compliance and areas needing development:

### Evidence of Non-Compliance by Accreditation Standard and Criterion

#### **Standard 2 Faculty and Staff, Criteria 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.4**

- The majority of part-time faculty are not credentialed with a minimum of a master's degree with a major in nursing.
- There is a lack of rationale for the utilization of faculty who do not meet the minimum credential.
- There is a lack of evidence that the number and utilization of full- and part-time faculty are sufficient to ensure achievement of program outcomes.

### **Evidence of Non-Compliance by Accreditation Standard and Criterion (continued)**

#### **Standard 6 Outcomes, Criteria 6.1, 6.4, and 6.5.3**

- There is a lack of evidence that the systematic plan for evaluation emphasizes the ongoing assessment and evaluation of the student learning outcomes, program outcomes, and the NLNAC Standards.
- There is a lack of evidence that graduates demonstrate competencies appropriate to role preparation.
- Program satisfaction of graduates and employers has not been systematically assessed.

### **Areas Needing Development by Accreditation Standard**

#### **Standard 2 Faculty and Staff**

- Ensure the credentials of practice laboratory personnel are commensurate with their level of responsibilities.

#### **Standard 6 Outcomes**

- Ensure all expected levels of achievement are specific and measurable.
- Ensure that the evaluation plan is operationalized by the faculty throughout the program.
- Ensure that evaluation findings inform program decision-making.
- Establish a measurable expected level of achievement for job placement that reflects best practices.
- Ensure that program satisfaction measures address graduates and their employers.
- Ensure that return rates for employer and graduate surveys provide sufficient data for decision-making.

The program has the right to forward comments regarding the Commission decision to NLNAC by April 30, 2013. NLNAC will forward to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education any comments submitted by the nursing program.

An educational program that has been denied continuing accreditation status may appeal the decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice of such denial by filing a written notice of appeal via hand delivery or certified or registered mail on or before April 30, 2013. The notice of appeal shall be sent by the Chief Executive Officer of the appellant institution to the NLNAC Chief Executive Officer. The notice of intent to appeal fee of \$1,250.00 shall accompany the written notice of the appeal. The appeal fee of \$10,000.00 shall be paid prior to scheduling the hearing.

If you have questions about this action or about NLNAC policies and procedures, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Sharon J. Tanner, EdD, RN  
Chief Executive Officer

Enc. Summary of Deliberations of the Evaluation Review Panel

SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIONS AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE  
ASSOCIATE EVALUATION REVIEW PANEL  
FALL 2012 FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CLEVELAND, OH

**Accreditation Status**

Last Evaluation Visit: Spring 2010  
Last Commission Action: June 2010  
Continuing Accreditation with Conditions. Spring 2018 with Conditions  
Follow-Up Report – Fall 2012  
Next Review in 2 Years to be based on a Follow-Up Report addressing:

- Standard 2 Faculty and Staff, Criteria 2.1.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4
- Standard 6 Outcomes, Criteria 6.1, 6.2, and 6.5

**Reader Recommendation**

Reader 1: Do Not Accept Report  
Reader 2: Do Not Accept Report  
Reader 3: Do Not Accept Report

**Evaluation Review Panel Recommendation**

**Do Not Accept the Follow-Up Report.**

**Evidence of Non-Compliance**

**Standard 2 Faculty and Staff, Criteria 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.4**

- The majority of part-time faculty are not credentialed with a minimum of a master's degree with a major in nursing.
- There is a lack of rationale for the utilization of faculty who do not meet the minimum credential.
- There is a lack of evidence that the number and utilization of full- and part-time faculty are sufficient to ensure achievement of program outcomes.

**Standard 6 Outcomes, Criteria 6.1, 6.4, and 6.5.3**

- There is a lack of evidence that the systematic plan for evaluation emphasizes the ongoing assessment and evaluation of the student learning outcomes, program outcomes, and the NLNAC Standards.
- There is a lack of evidence that graduates demonstrate competencies appropriate to role preparation.
- Program satisfaction of graduates and employers has not been systematically assessed.

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CLEVELAND, OH

**Areas Needing Development**

**Standard 2 Faculty and Staff**

- Ensure the credentials of practice laboratory personnel are commensurate with their level of responsibilities.

**Areas Needing Development**

**Standard 6 Outcomes**

- Ensure all expected levels of achievement are specific and measurable.
- Ensure that the evaluation plan is operationalized throughout the program.
- Ensure that evaluation findings inform program decision-making.
- Establish a measurable expected level of achievement for job placement that reflects best practices.
- Establish a measurable expected level of achievement for graduate satisfaction that reflects best practices.
- Ensure that return rates for employer and graduate surveys reflect best practices and provide sufficient data for decision-making.